

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN VICKI COCCHIARELLA**, on March 9, 2005
at 9:00 A.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella, Chairman (D)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Duane Grimes (R)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Glenn Roush (D)
Sen. Frank Smith (D)
Sen. Carolyn Squires (D)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Bill Tash (R)
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Jon Tester (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Annie Glover, Committee Secretary
Pat Murdo, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 400, 3/4/2005; HB 401, 3/4/2005;
HB 223, 3/4/2005; HB 630, 3/4/2005
Executive Action: HB 401, HB 400, HB 156

00:00:00

HEARING ON HB 400

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. JIM KEANE (D), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 400, Increase minimum weekly unemployment benefit.

EXHIBIT(bus52a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:47 Mr. Jerry Driscoll, Montana AFL-CIO

00:04:58 Don Judge, Teamsters Local 190

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:05:29 Mr. Roy Mulvaney, Administrator, Unemployment Insurance, Department of Labor and Industry

00:05:50

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:06:41

Closing by Sponsor:

00:07:08

HEARING ON HB 401

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. JIM KEANE (D), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 401, Revise crane and hoist license law.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:10:13 Mr. Jerry Driscoll, Montana AFL-CIO

00:11:38 Mr. Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:12:15 Mr. Jim Brown, Administrator, Business Standards Division, Department of Labor and Industry

00:12:48

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:20:51

Closing by Sponsor:

00:22:08

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 401

Motion: SEN. TASH moved that HB 401 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

Mr. Jim Brown, Administrator, Business Standards Division,
Department of Labor and Industry

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

SEN. TASH will carry HB 401 on the Senate Floor.

00:25:51

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 400

Motion: SEN. LEWIS moved that HB 400 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

Vote: Motion carried 8-2 by voice vote with SEN. BALLYEAT and
SEN. GRIMES voting no.

SEN. COCCHIARELLA will carry HB 400 on the Senate Floor.

00:28:08

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 156

Motion: SEN. STEINBEISSER moved that HB 156 BE CONCURRED IN.

Motion: SEN. COCCHIARELLA moved that HB 156 BE AMENDED WITH
HB015601.APM.

Discussion:

[EXHIBIT](#)(bus52a02)

SEN. STEINBEISSER and SEN. COCCHIARELLA withdrew their motions.

00:34:59

DISCUSSION ON INTERIM STUDY

EXHIBIT (bus52a03)

00:40:56

HEARING ON HB 223

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. LARRY JENT (D), HD 64, opened the hearing on HB 223, Repeal foreign capital depository act.

Proponents' Testimony: None.

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:43:56 Ms. Annie Goodwin, Commissioner, Banking Financial Institutions

00:44:24

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:50:28

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:45

HEARING ON HB 630

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. SCOTT MENDENHALL (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 630, Provide regulatory flexibility for small businesses.

EXHIBIT (bus52a04)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:59:16 Ms. Barbara Ranf, Montana Chamber of Commerce

EXHIBIT (bus52a05)

EXHIBIT (bus52a06)

EXHIBIT (bus52a07)

EXHIBIT (bus52a08)

01:03:01 **Ms. Jean Branscum, Secretary of State's Office**
01:05:09 **Mr. Charles Brooks, Billings Area Chamber of**
 Commerce

EXHIBIT(bus52a09)

01:07:32 **Mr. Jason Todhunter, Montana Logging Association**
01:08:06 **Mr. Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications**
 Association
01:10:34 **Ms. Ronda Carpenter-Wiggers, Great Falls Chamber**
 of Commerce
01:11:43 **Mr. Gary Amestoy, Richland County Economic**
 Development Corporation
01:12:39 **Mr. Evan Barrett, Governor's Office of Economic**
 Development

EXHIBIT(bus52a10)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:17:31 **Ms. Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information**
 Center

EXHIBIT(bus52a11)

01:28:48 **Mr. Don Judge, Montana Chapter of the Sierra Club,**
 Teamsters Local 190
01:33:40 **Mr. John Wilson, Montana Trout Unlimited**
01:39:11 **Mr. Cody Ferguson, Northern Plains Resource**
 Council

Informational Testimony: None.

01:42:24

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

Mr. Mark Simonich, Secretary of State's Office

02:17:10

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. MANGAN will carry HB 630 on the Senate Floor.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:25 A.M.

SEN. VICKI COCCHIARELLA, Chairman

ANNIE GLOVER, Secretary

VC/ag

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([bus52aad0.TIF](#))